

THROPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Thropton Parish Council held on Tuesday 19th March 2024 commencing at 7pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall

Those Present: Cllr Sutton (Chairman), Cllr Mrs Bertram, Cllr Foggon, Cllr Tuckey, Cllr Aplin, C Miller (Clerk)

2024/16 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2024/17 Declaration of Members Interests

There were no declaration of members interests.

2024/18 Public Questions

A parishioner had planned to attend tonight's meeting regarding smart meter mast provision within the parish, but was to now attend a future meeting.

2024/19 Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 16th January 2024

RESOLVED:

Members accepted the minutes of the previous meeting held Tuesday 16th January 2024 as a true record.

2024/20 Thropton Play Area

2024/20/01 To receive update from issues arising contained within annual RoSPA play area inspection report

Cllr Tuckey advised he would remove the rocker dog in the next ten days.

2024/20/02 To consider quotations for replacement play area equipment and information relating to County Council developer contributions

County Council developer contributions were no longer specifically earmarked for play and sport. Clerk had contacted several organisations who would consider funding towards the play area, however evidence of resident consultation and inclusiveness of play area facilities required.

RESOLVED:

Residents to be encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish 21st May 2024, with posters to be circulated within the parish and posts placed on facebook.

2024/20/03 To consider adoption of Safeguarding Policy

Item deferred until next meeting.

2024/21 Finance

2024/21/01 Invoices for authorisation

- Thropton War Memorial Hall – meeting room hire 2024 - £66
- C Miller – six monthly salary/expenses - £645.33
- The Village Gardeners – fitting new bin, road towards footbridge - £55

RESOLVED:

Members approved the payments

2024/21/02 To consider request for grant from Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery, Alnwick

RESOLVED:

Members agreed no grant would be given.

2024/22 Planning

2024/22/01 Planning applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2024/22/02 Approval of planning application received

- 23/04498/FUL: 7 Village Farm – Two storey rear house extension with first floor added to utility plus associated works – no objections

2024/23 Highway Matters

2024/23/01 To receive update on matters report to County Council – footpath from Three Wheat Heads upwards; B6341 road dip

Confirmation had been received during informal discussion at Town and Parish Conference 14/3/24 that road improvements were planned in the parish.

RESOLVED:

Clerk to contact Northumbrian Water regarding B6341 road dip.

2024/24 To receive update from Rothbury Joint Burial Committee

Nothing to report.

2024/25 To consider options for parish noticeboard to be located at Village Hall

Village Hall Committee had requested quotation(s) for replacement noticeboard.

2024/26 To discuss and determine the format of, and the publicity for the Annual Meeting of the Parish 21/5/24 to gauge public opinion in relation to looking after the environment

RESOLVED:

Public opinion to be gauged regarding environmental concerns in the parish, how Parish and County Council could assist. Posters and facebook posts to be organised to encourage residents to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

2024/27 Review of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED:

Members were in agreement to re-engage A Winter as internal auditor year ending 31.3.24.

2024/28 Review of Internal Controls

RESOLVED:

Members considered the current internal control systems, and were in agreement with the Statement of Internal Control.

2024/29 Review of Insurance Policy

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the current insurance covers were sufficient, as follows: Public liability £10m; Employers liability £10m; Officials indemnity £500K; Libel and slander £250K; Fidelity guarantee £150K; Street furniture £35K; Play area equipment £60K.

2024/30 Review of Asset Register

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the asset register was a true record.

2024/31 Review of Risk Assessment

RESOLVED:

Members approved the risk assessment.

2024/32 To consider information received from Northumbria Police

PCSO for the area keen to engage with the community as regards rural crime, particularly farming/quad bike theft. Dates of forthcoming Coquetdale Cluster meetings had been provided.

2024/33 To receive information relating to Northumberland Household Waste Recovery Centres (HWRC)

In response to new Government legislation, from 1st February Northumberland households can now dispose of limited DIY waste for free at our Northumberland Household Waste Recovery Centres (HWRC). From this date site users will need a pre-booked permit to dispose of their DIY waste at our HWRCs, to help us manage DIY waste disposal smoothly. Households that are taking in other non-DIY waste such as general household waste, garden waste, old furniture etc to the HWRCs are not affected by the new permit arrangements. The booking system is being introduced to manage these new DIY waste limits which are in line with the requirements of the new Controlled Waste Regulations 2023. A permit can be requested via www.northumberland.gov.uk/waste or through the contact centre on 0345 600 6400. The pre-booked permit allows free disposal of DIY waste up to 100 litres – that's about two typical 50 litre builders' rubble sacks, or one item no larger than 2000mm x 750mm x 700mm (ie the size of a shower screen). If the site user needs to dispose of more DIY waste than the allocated free allowance, then they can simply 'Pay as You Throw' for any additional DIY waste above the free amount using the existing tariff. Each household can have four visits with a permit to dispose of their DIY waste in any four-week period. Prominent site signage is in place at each HWRC informing site users of the new DIY permit requirements from 1st February 2024. Information has also been issued to the local media and a comprehensive social media campaign will include a DIY waste explainer video and an update in the News Section of the Council website.

Useful links:

Information leaflet (please scroll to DIY Waste Section):

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Waste/Tip.aspx#householdwastepermits>

Permit booking system: <https://wastepermitss.northumberland.gov.uk/selfservice/Permit.aspx>

2024/34 To consider correspondence from Elections Office, County Council, regarding review of parliamentary polling districts and polling places

County Council were required by law to carry out a review every five years.

RESOLVED:

Members agreed the present polling station facilities at the War Memorial Hall were sufficient.

2024/35 Urgent Business/Items for next meeting

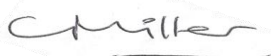
Following the Town and Parish Council Conference 14/3/24, Neil Easton, County Council Public Transport Manager, had advised the X14 bus service could possibly be enhanced. Clerk to seek further details from Neil Easton.

2024/36 Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Thropton Parish Council will be held on Tuesday 21st May 2024 commencing 730pm in Thropton War Memorial Hall.

The Annual Meeting of the Parish will commence at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 755pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Miller', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

C Miller, Clerk

www.parish-council.com/thropton